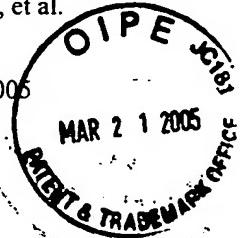


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YONEHARA, et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/521,234 Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: January 13, 2005 Docket: 10873.1574USWO
Confirmation No.: Unknown Notice of Allow. n/a
Due Date: n/a Date:
Title: METHOD OF DEGRADING PROTEIN USING SULFONIC ACID COMPOUND



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 March 17, 2005.

By: *Peggy Kerkhove*
Name: Peggy Kerkhove

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: *Douglas P. Mueller*
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
DPM/pjk